

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (Currently Amended) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a
2 deployment device and adapted to be deployed in a curved lumen, the
3 curved lumen having an inner side and an outer side of the curve, the
4 deployment device including a guide wire catheter, the stent graft
5 prosthesis being temporarily mounted to the deployment device at at least
6 one end of the prosthesis by a retention arrangement, the retention
7 arrangement including a retention of the stent graft prosthesis to the guide
8 wire catheter [deployment device] at a plurality of points of the
9 circumference of the proximal end of the stent graft prosthesis, there being
10 a greater circumferential distance between two adjacent retention points
11 than [then] other of the points, whereby when the deployment device is
12 deployed in the curved lumen the greater circumferential distance is on the
13 inner side of the curve.

1 2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Original) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a deployment device
2 as in Claim 1 wherein the retention arrangement includes three retention
3 points so that one larger and two smaller folds of the graft material are
4 formed.

1 4. (Original) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a deployment device
2 as in Claim 1 wherein the retention arrangement provides one larger lobe
3 and at least one smaller lobe of the proximal end of the graft material

4 wherein the larger lobe is on the inner side of the curve when the
5 deployment device is deployed in the curved lumen.

1 5. (Currently Amended) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a
2 deployment device as in Claim 1 wherein the ~~deployment device includes~~
3 ~~a guide wire catheter~~ includes and a trigger wire catheter coaxially around
4 the guide wire catheter with trigger wires passing along an ~~the~~ annular
5 space between the guide wire catheter and the trigger wire catheter and
6 exiting through apertures in the trigger wire catheter at the retention points
7 and the trigger wires are engaged with the graft material to provide the
8 retention points.

1 6. (Original) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a deployment device
2 as in Claim 5 wherein the apertures are equally spaced around the trigger
3 wire catheter.

1 7. (Currently Amended) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a
2 deployment device as in Claim 5 ~~4~~ wherein the trigger wires are engaged
3 to the graft material by loops of thread-like material.

1 8. (Original) A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a deployment device
2 as in Claim 7 wherein the loops of thread-like material are adapted to
3 remain with the graft material after deployment.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto and adapted to be deployed in a curved

3 lumen, the curved lumen having an inner side and an outer side of the
4 curve, the deployment device including a deployment catheter and a
5 release mechanism, the stent graft prosthesis comprising a tube of graft
6 material having a first end and a second end and being mounted to the
7 deployment device at at least its first end by a retention arrangement, the
8 retention arrangement including a retention to the deployment catheter
9 ~~device~~ at a plurality of points of the circumference of the proximal end of
10 the stent graft prosthesis, there being a greater circumferential distance
11 between two adjacent retention points than other of the points, and the
12 retention points being provided by the release mechanism being engaged
13 with the graft material, whereby when the deployment device is deployed
14 in the curved lumen the greater circumferential distance is on the inner side
15 of the curve.

1 10. (Cancelled)

1 11. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto wherein the retention arrangement includes
3 three retention points so that one larger and two smaller folds of the graft
4 material are formed.

1 12. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 9 wherein the retention
3 arrangement provides one larger fold and at least one smaller fold of the
4 proximal end of the graft material wherein the larger fold is on the inner
5 side of the curve when the deployment device is deployed in the curved
6 lumen.

1 13. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 9 wherein the deployment
3 catheter includes a guide wire catheter and a trigger wire catheter coaxially
4 around the guide wire catheter and the release mechanism includes trigger
5 wires passing along the annular space between the guide wire catheter and
6 the trigger wire catheter and exiting through apertures in the trigger wire
7 catheter.

1 14. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 13 wherein the apertures are
3 equally spaced around the trigger wire catheter.

1 15. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 13 wherein the trigger wires are
3 engaged to the graft material by loops of thread-like material.

1 16. (Previously Presented) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 15 wherein the loops of thread-
3 like material are adapted to remain with the graft material after
4 deployment.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto ~~A stent graft prosthesis mounted to a~~
3 ~~deployment device~~ as in Claim 9 wherein the stent graft prosthesis
4 comprises ~~includes stents of~~ self expanding zig zag Z stents ~~and the tube~~
5 ~~of graft material.~~

1 18. (Currently Amended) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 17 ~~16~~ wherein the retention is by
3 sutures tied to trigger wires on the deployment device and around bends
4 of the zig zag Z stents on the stent graft.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A deployment device and stent graft prosthesis
2 temporarily mounted thereto as in Claim 14 wherein further retention
3 points are provided along the length of the stent graft prosthesis ~~such as~~
4 ~~at the second end of the stent graft prosthesis.~~

1 20. (Cancelled)

1 21. (Cancelled)

1 22. (Original) A deployment device for deploying a stent graft prosthesis
2 into a thoracic arch of a patient, the stent graft prosthesis being temporarily
3 mounted to the deployment device and adapted to be deployed in the
4 thoracic arch, the thoracic arch having a curved lumen having an inner side
5 and an outer side of the curve, the stent graft prosthesis being mounted to
6 the deployment device at least the proximal end of the prosthesis by a
7 retention arrangement, the retention arrangement including a retention to
8 the deployment device at a plurality of points of the circumference of the
9 proximal end of the stent graft prosthesis, there being a greater
10 circumferential distance between two adjacent retention points than other
11 of the points, whereby when the deployment device is deployed in the

12 curved lumen the greater circumferential distance is on the inner side of the
13 curve.

1 23. (Original) An introducer for introducing a stent graft prosthesis into
2 a curved lumen of a patient, the introducer including an arrangement for
3 temporarily fixing the prosthesis to the introducer while it is being
4 introduced into the lumen, wherein three or more positions on one end of
5 the prosthesis are to be fixed to the arrangement, wherein the
6 circumferential distance between two adjacent ones of those positions is
7 greater than the circumferential distance between other adjacent positions
8 of those positions and wherein the introducer serves to introduce the
9 prosthesis into the lumen with said two adjacent positions next to the inner
10 side of the curve of the lumen.